

7-1995

## Digest of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (Summer 1995)

Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine

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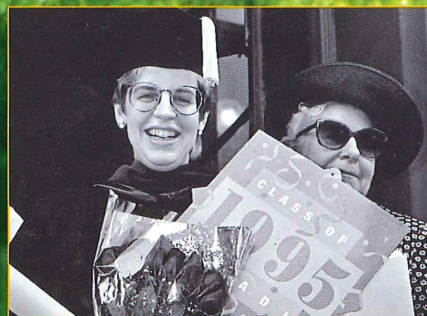
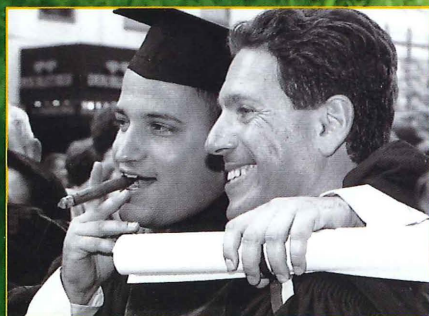
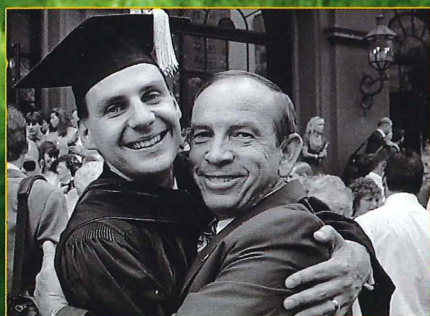
**PCOM**

**SUMMER 1995**

# Digest



**Commencement '95**







# Com

Newly graduated and newly wed **Pat Romano**, DO, '95 and **Marylou Checchia Romano**, DO, '95 get ready to celebrate commencement with family and friends. They began dating in their second year at PCOM.



# commencement '95

## PCOM Graduates 217 at 104th commencement

As 217 PCOM students became osteopathic physicians June 4, they were presented with a challenge.

Commencement speaker Norman Gevitz, PhD, medical historian and leading writer on osteopathic medicine, told the graduates that their generation must take on the toughest challenge the field has ever had to face: the challenge of distinctiveness.

Gevitz said, "What I strongly feel all of you need to do now is to concentrate your energies at demonstrating that the structure, content and product of the osteopathic educational system is not only parallel to but sufficiently distinctive from its allopathic counterparts.

"It is not enough for DOs to simply duplicate what is already being competently practiced by the graduates of allopathic medical schools. That would make you a profession without a mission — and if you have no mission — you have no fundamental reason why you should exist. What all of you have is a legacy."

For his invaluable study of osteopathic medicine, Gevitz received an honorary doctor of laws degree from PCOM. The College also presented an honorary doctor of laws degree to Sherry R. Arnstein, executive director of the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine, for her leadership role in osteopathic medical education.

After commencement, PCOM's 32 military graduates were commissioned as officers: 18 in the Army, 12 in the Navy and two in the Air Force. The College had more Army graduates than any medical school in the country.

PCOM continued its tradition of graduating primary care physicians with 64 percent of the class of '95 intending to pursue careers in primary care.



Graduate **Francis Nkem Ogbolu II, DO, '95**, lines up outside the Academy of Music for the commencement procession. He received two commencement awards: the Dean's Award for his leadership qualities and the H. Willard Sterrett, DO and H. Willard Sterrett Jr., DO Memorial Award for proficiency in urology. He previously received the Gina F. Simelaro Memorial Scholarship (1994) for his academic excellence and the Sandoz Student Award (1992) for his service to the college community, contributions to medical education and maintenance of the standards of the osteopathic medical profession.



# Awards & Kudos

## THE DEAN'S AWARD

Francis Nkem Ogbolu II  
Michael Joseph Pistoria

## THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARD

Joanne Calabrese

## THE JOHN H. EIMERBRINK, DO MEMORIAL AWARD

Ruth Diane Jones

## THE DEAN ARTHUR M. FLACK AND BELLE B. FLACK MEMORIAL AWARD

Mark Allen Voltis Thomas  
Jay David Varrato

## THE WILBUR P. LUTZ, DO MEMORIAL AWARD

Arthur James DeMarsico

## THE WILLIAM F. DAIBER, DO MEMORIAL AWARD

Corwin Ashford Gordon Thomas

## THE FREDERIC H. BARTH MEMORIAL AWARD

Stephanie Briggs Bennett  
Eric David Newman

## THE KENNETH L. WHEELER, DO MEMORIAL AWARD

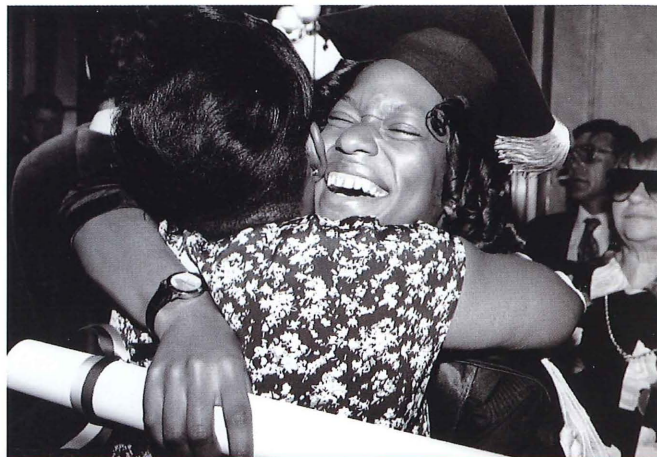
Concetta Giuliano  
Michael Andrew Kovalick

## THE HAROLD C. WADDEL, DO MEMORIAL AWARD

Thomas Paul Enyart

## THE H. WILLARD STERRETT, DO AND H. WILLARD STERRETT JR., DO MEMORIAL AWARD

Christopher Patrick Moyer  
Francis Nkem Ogbolu II



*Karyn C. Lewis, DO, '95 shares the joy of graduating with a family member.*

## THE GALEN S. YOUNG SR., DO AWARD

Clara Marie Higgins  
Troy Michael Kerner

## THE JESSE M. YOUNG MEMORIAL AWARD

Jane A. Zendarski

## THE WILLIAM H. DICKERSON, DO MEMORIAL AWARD

Gerald V. Maloney

## THE DR. THOMAS M. ROWLAND JR. SCHOLAR-ATHLETE AWARD

Jay David Varrato



*Joining together at commencement are, left to right, **Kenneth J. Veit, DO, '76**, PCOM dean; **Galen S. Young Sr., DO, '35**, PCOM chancellor; **Norman Gevitz, PhD**, commencement speaker and recipient of an honorary doctor of laws degree; **Nicholas C. Pedano, DO, '61**, PCOM chairman and professor of surgery; **Leonard H. Finkelstein, DO, '59**, PCOM president and CEO; **Lewis Abel**, PCOM vice president and chief operating officer; **Sherry R. Arnstein**, executive director of the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine and recipient of an honorary doctor of laws degree; **Eugene Chaiken**, PCOM board of trustees vice chairman; and **Harry Ginsburg, DO, '42**, PCOM board of trustees member.*





**SIGMA ALPHA OMICRON**

Troy Mitchell DeNunzio  
Michael Andrew Kovalick  
Maria Christina Yager  
Robert David Zenenberg

**THE PCOM STUDENT MEMORIAL AWARD**

Troy Mitchell DeNunzio  
Maria Christina Yager

**THE PENNSYLVANIA OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AWARD**

Kathleen Elaine Wallace Heer

**THE UPJOHN ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

Beth Ann Callihan

**1995 EXCELLENCE IN EMERGENCY MEDICINE AWARD**

William Delmar Schumacher

**THE DONNA JONES MORITSUGU AWARD**

*Awarded by the National Osteopathic Foundation to that spouse of a graduating student who best exemplifies the role of a professional's partner: Bellette T. Green*

**THE CHRISTIAN R. AND MARY F. LINDBACK FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**

Christopher Lowell Mathur	Awarded 1992
William Hughes Phillips	Awarded 1992
Maria Christina Yager	Awarded 1992
Eric David Newman	Awarded 1993
Robert David Zenenberg	Awarded 1993

**THE RUSSELL C. McCAUGHAN EDUCATIONAL FUND**

Richard John Laracy Jr.	Awarded 1992
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**DR. ETHEL D. ALLEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Cecelia Denea Johnson	Awarded 1991
Yolanda Mechell Whitfield	Awarded 1992

**THE GINA F. SIMELARO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Francis Nkem Ogbolu II	Awarded 1994
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**THE CLIFFORD G. DORF MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Anthony John Barravecchio	Awarded 1995
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**CIBA-GEIGY AWARD**

Kathleen Elaine Wallace Heer	Awarded 1992
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**SANDOZ STUDENT AWARD**

Francis Nkem Ogbolu II	Awarded 1992
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**First Class Graduates from Master of Science Program**



*Congratulations to PCOM's first master's in biomedical sciences program graduating class. All five graduates were accepted by PCOM as medical students and have started classes this fall. They were honored at a dinner dance May 24 at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Philadelphia. At the event, left to right, are Kenneth J. Veit, DO, '76, PCOM dean; Robert Cuzzolino, EdD, associate dean for academic administration; graduates John Spitalieri, Pamela Tedesco, Patrick Gilhool, Catherine Maturo and Agostino Ingraldi; Carol Fox, assistant dean for admissions and enrollment management; David Martin, coordinator of minority recruitment; and Domenic DeBias, PhD, assistant dean for special training programs.*



# Graduation



# Snap

For Stephanie Bennett, DO, '95, entering medical school at age 45 wasn't out-of-the ordinary; it was merely a natural progression in a life devoted to teaching and healing. Then again, Bennett's life has been anything but ordinary.

Since the mid-1970's, Bennett, a lifelong horse trainer and competitor, has run therapeutic riding programs for the disabled. She taught at the nationally renowned Thorncroft Equestrian Center in Malvern, Pa., where she worked with people of all ages and levels of physical and mental ability.

"Riding gives a disabled person an opportunity for growth and enjoyment — emotionally, physically and socially," says Bennett, who believes therapeutic riding works for two reasons. "Horses are dynamic, warm creatures that offer manipulative benefits such as myofascial release and massage — since the kinetics of the horse and human gait are similar," she explains. She also thinks it can succeed where traditional therapy has failed because the student learns in a recreational environment.

Bennett has coached the U.S. Disabled Riding Team, which has competed in world championships in Denmark and England. Her contributions to therapeutic riding are recognized at the annual Devon Horse Show, where the winner of the disabled riding competition receives the "Stephanie Bennett Perpetual Trophy."

Medicine has interested Bennett all of her life. "I was always the 'doctor' in the family, the one relatives would come to for health advice," says Bennett. It wasn't until her father had bypass surgery that she decided to become a physician. After visiting him in the hospital, she went home and announced to her husband and two daughters, "I'm applying to medical school."

During her PCOM years, she successfully juggled class-work and "farm and family" while serving as president of both the Lambda Omicron Gamma medical society and

Internal Medicine Club. At commencement, Bennett received the Frederic H. Barth Memorial Award for excellence in bronchopulmonary and upper respiratory studies.

In her new career as an osteopathic physician, Bennett will build on her belief in education, preventive medicine and lifelong wellness. "The medical system is skewed in this country," she says. "Medical care is available for life-threatening diseases resulting from self-abuse, while preventive care is not encouraged or available to all. We need to educate people not to abuse themselves and expect that when they end up in the emergency room, there will be a pill to make them better."

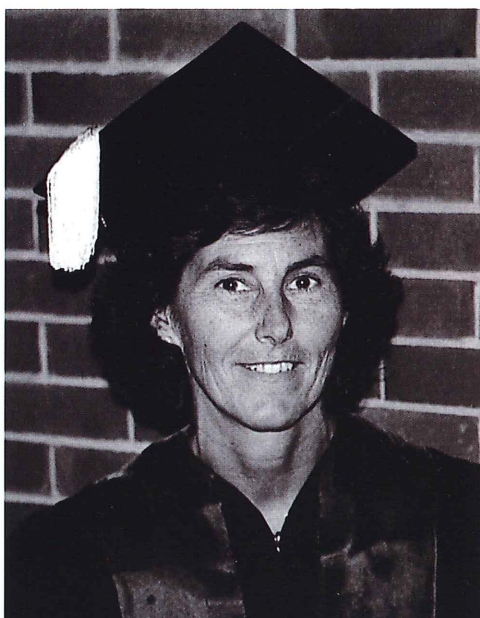
Her clinical rotations taught her a lot about the human side of medicine. "I don't know how many times patients would cry in my arms about how scared they were and how they didn't know what was happening to them," she remembers.

"I hope I never give the impression that I have better things to do than spend time with a patient."

Bennett, who plans to become a family practitioner, is serving an internship at Suburban General Hospital in Norristown, Pa.

She lives with her husband Roger, four horses, three cats and two dogs at "Rocker Fox Farms" in Malvern, Pa. Her husband, an ice-dancing coach at rinks throughout the Philadelphia area, gave her a refurbished doctor's buggy as a graduation present. She plans to use the horse-drawn buggy to make house calls — just as her great-grandfather did in the nineteenth century. "If it's an emergency, I'll take the car," she says.

## A Healer's Journey



*Stephanie Bennett, DO*



### Class of '95 Statistics

- 217 students
- 44% between 25-30 years old
- 62% men
- 38% women
- 64% pursuing primary care (68% of women; 51% of men)
  - 52% family practice
  - 25% internal medicine
  - 10% pediatrics
  - 10% OB/GYN



## shots

"When you're backed into a corner, you can either retreat and be comfortable. Or you can put your back to the wall, take your chances and fight for freedom and your dream," asserts Phoung Wirths, DO, '95. This isn't just rhetoric for Wirths. He lived by those words in a story that proves the incredible resiliency of the human spirit.

Wirths grew up in a small, poor village in Vietnam. Dreaming of becoming a doctor, he excelled in his studies. In sixth grade, however, Wirths had to leave school and work to help support the family.

"Most of the Vietnamese people did not have enough to eat," explains Wirths. "The government-enforced rules and regulations made it impossible for families to earn enough money or grow enough food to live."

Wirths' family wanted a better life for him and his younger brother. They felt the only hope for freedom for the boys was to send them to America, via refugee boat. To earn money for their journey, the family rowed hopeful émigrés at night to larger fishing boats in Saigon Harbor, with the ultimate destination of America.

In 1981, without knowing the fate of his brother, who had left two months before, Wirths' started his trip. He was 13. The risks were great: more than 75 percent of refugees never make it — they are either captured or perish at sea.

Wirths traveled for six days with 120 people and little food and water. After four days, the boat was hijacked at sea and all money and valuables were taken. "It amazed me how much people had brought with them," remembers Wirths. "All I had were the shorts and tee shirt I was wearing." They safely reached a refugee camp in Bidong, an island in the Malaysian archipelago.

After six months of interviews and physicals, Wirths was accepted into the United States. He spent the next six months

learning English and living skills in another refugee camp in the Phillipines. When he finally arrived in the United States, he was reunited with his brother. The boys were placed with a foster family in northern New Jersey.

Unfortunately, difficulties with the family led Wirths and

his brother to seek another foster family. They were placed with a bachelor father with other foster children, and this arrangement worked. Phuong thought so highly of the family he changed his name from Nguyen to Wirths. "Wallace Wirths really helped us stay together, stay focused and taught us so much," says Wirths.

Although Wirths entered seventh grade speaking very little English, his grades were so good he skipped eighth grade. He says ninth grade was his toughest year — not academically, but socially. Nonetheless, he persevered, focusing on his dream of becoming a doctor, participating in sports and graduating with honors.

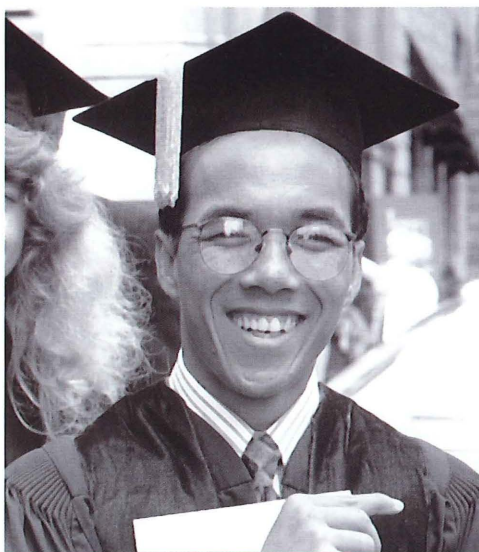
After completing a pre-med program at the University of Scranton, Wirths entered PCOM in 1991. He chose the College because he wanted to practice primary care medicine and liked PCOM's commitment to medically underserved people in urban and rural areas. Wirths plans to practice internal medicine in a rural area, where he says he can really make a difference.

"Preventive medicine is the key to lifelong good health," he says. "I believe in treating the person and the lifestyle, not merely the disease and symptoms. If you don't have your health, what do you have?"

Wirths returned to Vietnam last year to visit his family, whom he hadn't seen in 13 years. "I'd never seen my mother cry before," he recalls. "But when she saw her son the doctor, she realized it was a dream come true."

This year has been a special one for Wirths. Not only did he achieve his dream of becoming a physician, he married his college sweetheart, Debbie, on August 5.

## Against All Odds



*Phoung Wirths, DO*

• 53% chose primary care before entering PCOM

• 36% pursuing specialty medicine

• Reasons for choosing specialty (primary care or specialty medicine):

— Intellectual

30%

— Positive experiences with physician

21%

— Lifestyle

20%

— Humanitarian

18%

— Financial

6%

— Prestige

5%

• 43% planning to return to home area to practice

• 17 states represented

• 54% from Pennsylvania

• 32 counties represented



## • COLLEGE BOARD PROFILE •

For Paul W. McGloin, a member of PCOM's board of trustees since September 1991, his role in helping restructure PCOM to become the strong, fiscally healthy entity it is today is not exactly putting on a new hat. In fact, it's one of the things he does best. An executive vice president of Meridian Bank, McGloin helps businesses in the Delaware Valley restructure their operations in preparation for negotiating loans with financial institutions. Since joining PCOM's board, he has used his considerable financial talents to help the

College through its own critical restructuring process.

Born and raised in Long Island, New York, McGloin first came to Philadelphia to attend Drexel University. After graduation, he joined Peat Marwick Main as a certified public accountant, moving to Meridian in 1975. A resident of Wayne, Pennsylvania, McGloin and his wife



*Paul W. McGloin*

Beverly have three sons, Christopher, Matthew and Sean.

Through the years, he has enjoyed a rich and varied "after-hours" life in volunteer service to the community. The breadth of his community activities has lent a rare vision to PCOM's board. He is a member of the large user's committee for Philadelphia Electric, and serves on the board of trustees for Leadership, Inc., a group that meets monthly to discuss regional issues such as schools, politics and architecture. He is also a member of the agency relations and research council for Robert Morris Associates, a trade association for the banking industry.

McGloin credits his position as treasurer of the finance committee for the Foundation for Architecture with giving him a whole different view

of the city. "I've gained an appreciation of the city's skyline and neighborhoods," he says. "I've also gained a sense that the landscape adds tremendously to the quality of life." He adds that he particularly enjoys having the opportunity, through his work with the foundation, to become involved in important discussions regarding the city's future.

As a member of the executive board for the Philadelphia Convention and Visitor's Bureau, McGloin shares the view of other bureau board members that Philadelphia is one of this country's "best kept secrets." Ask him what heads his list of "best kept secrets" here in his adopted city, and without hesitation he'll tell you it's PCOM. "PCOM has many successes as an institution, and the alumni and the community need to be better informed about those successes," he says. "The alumni in particular should be very proud of what their support has accomplished."

When he first joined PCOM's board as a member of the finance committee, and had a chance to take a look at the whole organization, he says, it became clear to him that the hospital was a drain on the overall well-being of the institution. "Although we knew that it would be a difficult decision to make and carry out, we knew it was necessary to sell the hospital arm to make the institution healthier, and to allow it to focus on its primary responsibility to educate," says McGloin. The result, he feels, is that PCOM is now a stronger, more flexible institution, well prepared to meet the challenges of the future.

McGloin credits both Leonard H. Finkelstein, DO '59, PCOM president and CEO, and Herbert Lotman, chairman of the

board, for the institution's recent successes. "When I was introduced to Dr. Finkelstein, I liked his vision for the college, and I was excited to have the opportunity to help shape the future of an important Philadelphia institution," he says. For getting that job done, he credits Lotman. "You can't run a successful school if you aren't willing and able to do what needs to be done to make it financially viable," he says. "Through Herb's leadership, we have achieved that goal, and have the opportunity to become even better in future years. Now, the College has the ability to continue to upgrade the teaching and the facilities, and to attract top candidates for enrollment. It puts PCOM in a position to compete with all medical schools across the United States."



## • ALUMNI BOARD PROFILE •

*When Major General Ronald R. Blanck, DO, '67, looks back on his education at PCOM and his distinguished career in the United States Army Medical Corps, he sees a common thread: a plethora of opportunities. Never one to let a good opportunity pass him by, Blanck has made a career of taking on one exciting professional challenge after another. In his present position as Commander of Walter Reed Army Medical Center and the North Atlantic Health Service Support Area, he is responsible for a regional command encompassing nine hospitals and 48 stand-alone clinics from North Carolina northward.*

*Ronald R. Blanck, DO*

In addition to his day-to-day responsibilities at Walter Reed, Blanck is responsible for providing health care to more than one million beneficiaries with a staff of 12,000 plus military and civilian personnel, and for training soldiers for deployment. He was the first osteopathic physician to lead the Army Medical Corps, which includes 5,400 army physicians, and was instrumental in planning the medical preparations for Operation Desert Shield/Storm.

"The training and education I received at PCOM allowed me to take advantage of opportunities in a wide variety of areas over the years, combining clinical, teaching and management elements," says Blanck. He has held various academic positions throughout his career, at universities including Georgetown University, Uniformed Services University School of Medicine and the University of Texas at San Antonio.

Blanck became the first DO to be named chief of the department of medicine at Brooke Army Medical Center, and later served as commander of the U.S. Army Medical Department Activity in Berlin, Germany. In 1988, he assumed command of the Frankfurt Army Regional Medical Center in Frankfurt.

Blanck was introduced to the field of osteopathic medicine when he was a child, growing up in Ephrata, Pa. "I always went to DOs as a kid," he says. "My own doctor was a DO, and when I decided I wanted to become a doctor, he took me down to the college (PCOM) where he had gone. I had always liked that aspect of osteopathic medicine that emphasizes the mind, body and spirit unity. I like the fact that it focuses on the patient, not the disease. I chose osteopathic medicine because of its focus on patients."

In 1958, President Eisenhower signed legislation that



permitted osteopathic physicians to serve in the military for the first time. However, the legislation wasn't acted upon until 1967, at the onset of the Vietnam War. In 1968, Blanck was drafted and sent to Vietnam. His military honors include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star and the Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster.

When he returned from Vietnam, he was stationed briefly at Fort Meyer, Virginia, and saw a posting for internal medicine at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. "I applied, so my career as a military physician continued," he adds.

Blanck has stayed in touch with PCOM over the years. As the number of alumni serving in the military increased, a position was created on the alumni board of directors for a military representative. In 1993, Blanck was elected to fill that position, and, he says, he was happy to devote the time necessary.

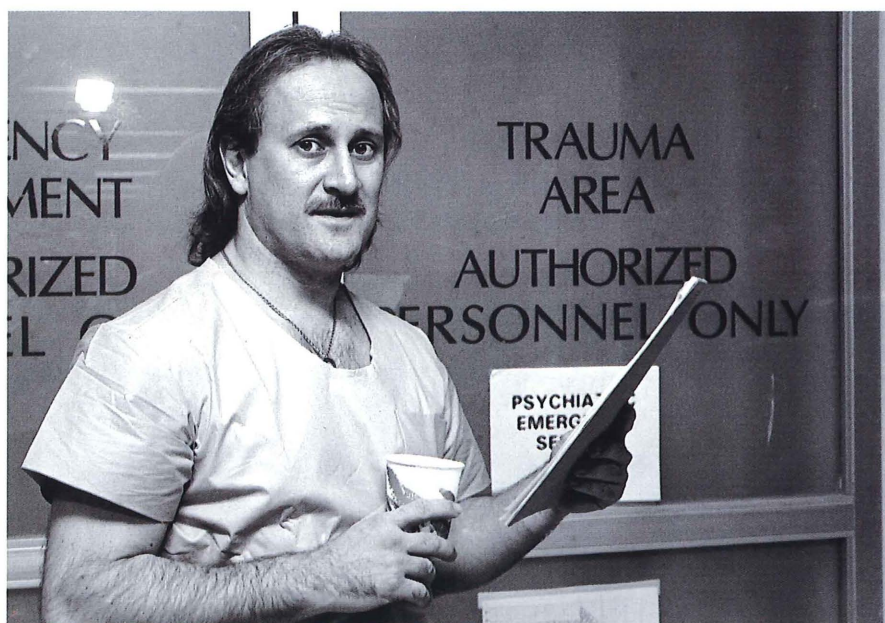
"The school has done a great job dealing with its previous debt and restructuring so it can focus all its talents and resources on the school's primary mission, medical education," says Blanck. "Now, all the leadership is in the right place at the right time. The Alumni Association is fortunate to have a very strong leadership who shares the same goal of providing an excellent medical education."

As for the osteopathic profession, Blanck sees a very bright and productive future. "It's doing its part to add to the evolution of the healthcare profession, and to demonstrate its value in the military, at NIH (National Institutes of Health), in the academic centers, and most important, in every medical practice, where we deal with the individual patient," he says.



## Alumni Making News

# "48 Hours" segment features alumnus



**John S. Holup, DO, '89**, (top left) was featured on the television show "48 Hours" in a Jan. 5 episode titled "The Real ER." Holup's segment was filmed at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) - University Hospital in Newark, NJ, where he served as chief of the trauma team. The piece focused on the case of a critically injured boy named Chino to show what happens when a person enters the ER. In the segment, Holup performs surgery on Chino, monitors his condition and comforts the boy's family. He is also shown at home with his wife, Janet.

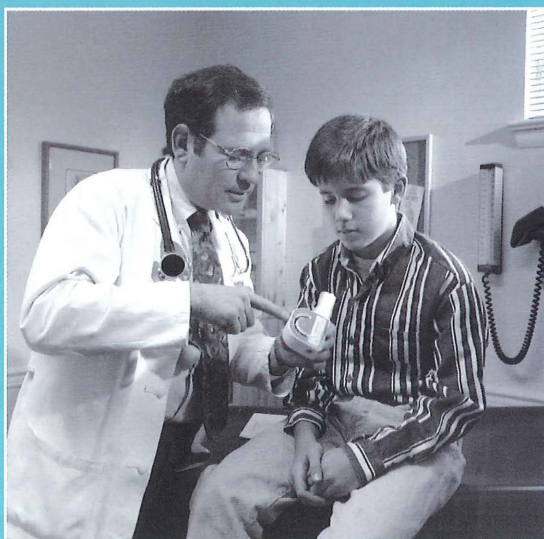
Holup received nearly 20 letters from viewers who were inspired by his compassion. One woman wrote, "I have utilized emergency rooms on several occasions and have dealt with physicians in the past. I have yet to meet one like you . . . How blessed your patients are." A registered nurse who works in an emergency room wrote, "Doctor, you are an inspiration. You certainly have your priorities in order."

The Holups say the best part of the show was the letters and calls they received from people who were touched by the story. Holup has finished his residency and is a surgical attending physician at UMDNJ - University Hospital.

## HMO commercials feature PCOM grad

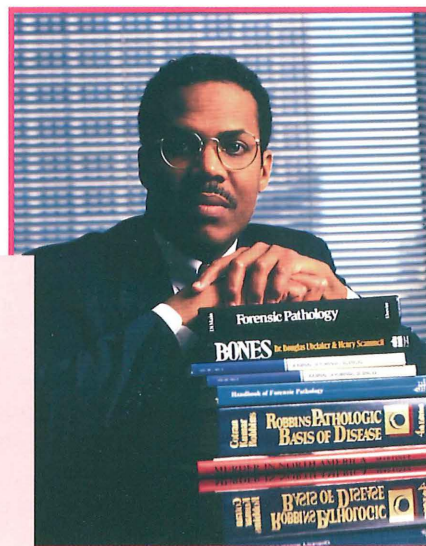
**Louis Hirshberg, DO, '79**, stars in four Keystone HMO commercials that have been airing in the Philadelphia area since March 1. Keystone was searching for a family physician to profile and selected Hirshberg. "The experience was fun, but scary," he recalls. "Everything was so timed, and it was difficult to walk and talk simultaneously in front of the camera."

Part of the filming, which took three 12-hour days, occurred in his office. Hirshberg has a solo practice in family and geriatric medicine in Eagleville, Pa.



## Forensic adventures shared in Philadelphia Magazine

**James Lewis, DO, '82**, (right) co-authored an article with Sherrie Gumienny in Philadelphia Magazine's April 1995 issue. Titled "Toe Tag Tales," the article recounts his most bizarre case as a forensic pathologist. It's also a chapter in the book he hopes to publish someday. Lewis is Gloucester County (NJ) chief medical examiner and chair of the International Institute of Forensic Science in Philadelphia.







# Capital Campaign Developments

## Alumni join renovation kick-off

A celebration marking PCOM's campus renovation project was held June 2 at a groundbreaking ceremony at the College. Alumni, community leaders, politicians and employees learned details of the designs for the campus. The guests viewed the new building and landscaping plans at a luncheon held after the ceremony. The \$35 million project, partially funded by *The PCOM Mission*, is scheduled to be completed in 1997.

## Alumni association pledges \$1 million

In addition to the personal commitment made by each alumni board member to *The PCOM Mission*, the board voted unanimously at its June 3 meeting to commit \$1 million from the alumni association. The commitment will be paid from the association's investment portfolio. The board will determine a specific designation for the gift at its January meeting.

## Campaign scholarships

### Minority Medical Student Scholarship

A minority scholarship fund has been established for *The PCOM Mission*. The purpose of this scholarship is to raise \$1 million to benefit underrepresented minority students seeking an osteopathic medical education at PCOM. A minority scholarship committee, co-chaired by PCOM board members **William M. King**, DO, '62 and **Leonard Johnson**, DO, '64, has been formed to administer the fund.

### Avallone Memorial Scholarship



Dr. Avallone

To honor the memory of his parents, **Michael F. Avallone Sr.**, DO, '59 has established the Martha and Michael J. Avallone Memorial Scholarship. This annual \$2,500 scholarship will be awarded to a second-, third- or fourth-year student who has either a disabled or deceased parent, and plans to practice or reside in Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery or Philadelphia county.

"Keeping this medical college on a high level is not an individual, but a collective responsibility," says Avallone. "If all alumni meet this challenge together, this level can be maintained. PCOM needs your help. Give back to your profession and College, two-fold, three-fold, that which was given to you."

### Nicholas S. Nicholas, DO Memorial Scholarship



Dr. A. Nicholas

*The PCOM Mission* is proud to announce the Nicholas S. Nicholas, DO Memorial Scholarship in memory of the beloved PCOM professor and chairman of OMM. Known as "Dr. Nick" for most of his 47 years at the College, his name is synonymous with the practice and teaching of OMM. The scholarship was established by **Alexander Nicholas**, DO, '75,



Alumni helped PCOM kick-off its major campus renovation project at a groundbreaking ceremony June 2. Left to right are **Albert F. D'Alonzo**, DO, '56, PCOM board of trustees member; **Leonard H. Finkelstein**, DO, '59, PCOM president and CEO; **Michael F. Avallone Sr.**, DO, '59, alumni board member; **Rear Admiral James H. Black**, DO, '62, alumni association board president; and **Nicholas C. Pedano**, DO, '61, national campaign chairman of *The PCOM Mission*.

professor and chairman of OMM and son of the late Dr. Nicholas; his mother Marika Nicholas; and brother **Evan Nicholas**, DO, '81, along with faculty and friends to honor the importance Dr. Nicholas placed on educating students.

"I remember, as a child, my father talking about individual students' progress through school," says Alexander Nicholas, DO. "He enjoyed teaching and interacting with them. Osteopathic principles and practice were important to him, and I feel the scholarship will be a successful tool in training osteopathic physicians for the competitive market they will face. This scholarship allows my father to be honored and his memory to live on by helping students follow in his footsteps."

## Scholarships established

Six other scholarships have been established: Alumni Association Scholarship; Cecelia and A. Archie Feinstein, DO Scholarship; Bernard F. Master, DO Scholarship; JoAnne Pieringer, PhD Memorial Scholarship; Unrestricted Scholarship Fund; and Jesse M. Young Scholarship.

To name a scholarship, a minimum pledge of \$50,000 is required. Contact the campaign office for more information.

## Regional Leaders Help Campaign

Since the campaign's kick-off at the November 1994 AOA convention, campaign staff have been enlisting alumni support to solicit pledges. So far, 13 alumni from New York to California have joined the campaign as regional leaders.

To volunteer as a regional leader or to learn more about *The PCOM Mission*, call Pam Serocki, campaign manager, or Hale T. Peffall Jr., executive director, alumni relations and development, at 1-800-739-3939.



## STUDENT FOCUS

# OMM Fellows Announced

PCOM has named this year's undergraduate fellows in the Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine (OMM) Fellowship Program. The program was initiated in the 1994-1995 academic year by PCOM's Committee for the Implementation of Osteopathic Philosophy. The students, all members of the class of '97, are:

- **Matthew Dubrow** of Ambler, Pa., a graduate of Temple University
- **Kenneth Erdman** of Shippensburg, Pa., a graduate of Shippensburg University
- **Ronald Mosiello** of Wilkes Barre, Pa., a graduate of Wilkes University
- **Stephanie Waecker** of Portland, Maine, a graduate of Brown University

The fellowship's purpose is to reinforce and develop students' skills in

OMM, and to have the students serve as role models for their peers. The students will serve 12 months over a three-year period in PCOM's OMM department. Funding for the program is partially provided by the capital campaign.

The program now has six students, including two who started last year. "The fellowship has been so successful that we increased it from two to four students this year," notes **Alexander Nicholas**, DO, '75, professor and chairman of OMM.

According to Nicholas, the students' duties cover three areas: teaching, seeing patients and conducting research. "They help teach and tutor students in OMM, they do intake on patients in the OMM department and in the student/employee health office,

and they participate in outcomes research on patients with problems such as back pain or headaches," he says. "They also help shape the curriculum."

Nicholas says the program gives students an advanced knowledge and ability in OMM. "They will be teachers when they finish this program," he says.

## Student kudos

**Lori Truman**, PCOM '96, was elected student council president. She was first vice president last year and has served as a student council representative.

**Joyce Roberts**, DO, '95, received the Richard E. Colarusso, DO Memorial Scholarship during her fourth year at PCOM in recognition of her academic achievement. The \$400 scholarship is awarded to a third- or fourth-year student from Lackawanna or Luzerne county, Pennsylvania who demonstrates financial need. Richard E. Colarusso, DO, '66 was a family practitioner in Pittston, Pa.

## Student Spouses Recognized



Spouses of PCOM seniors received much-deserved recognition at a Student Auxiliary Association (SAA) event April 19. SAA advisor Dorothy Meals, wife of Robert L. Meals, DO, '56, hosted a graduation party to honor the spouses for their patience and understanding while the student doctors attended PCOM. Enjoying the event are SAA members, front row, left to right, Stephanie Matsko, Shelly Altman, Cynthia Curry, Bellette Green and Lorrie Tuller. Back row, left to right, are Patricia Clemens, Michelle Marchetti, Lynn Levy, Margaret Flynn, Debbie Blasingame, SAA Advisor Dorothy Meals, Nancy Gordon, Roxanne Wloczewski, Patricia Kirk, Sherry Carnuccio and Rose Cunningham.

## Banquet honors athletes

PCOM recognized senior athletes at the annual sports banquet May 12 at Chateau Granieri in Whitemarsh, Pa. Thirty-nine members of the class of 1995 were honored for participating on a PCOM sports team, including rugby, soccer, volleyball, and men's and women's basketball. The most prestigious award, the Dr. Thomas M. Rowland Jr. Scholar-Athlete Award, was presented to **Jay Varrato**, DO, '95, a member of the soccer team. Varrato, who ranked 14th in his class, received the Dean Arthur M. Flack and Belle B. Flack Memorial Award at commencement for his proficiency in internal medicine.



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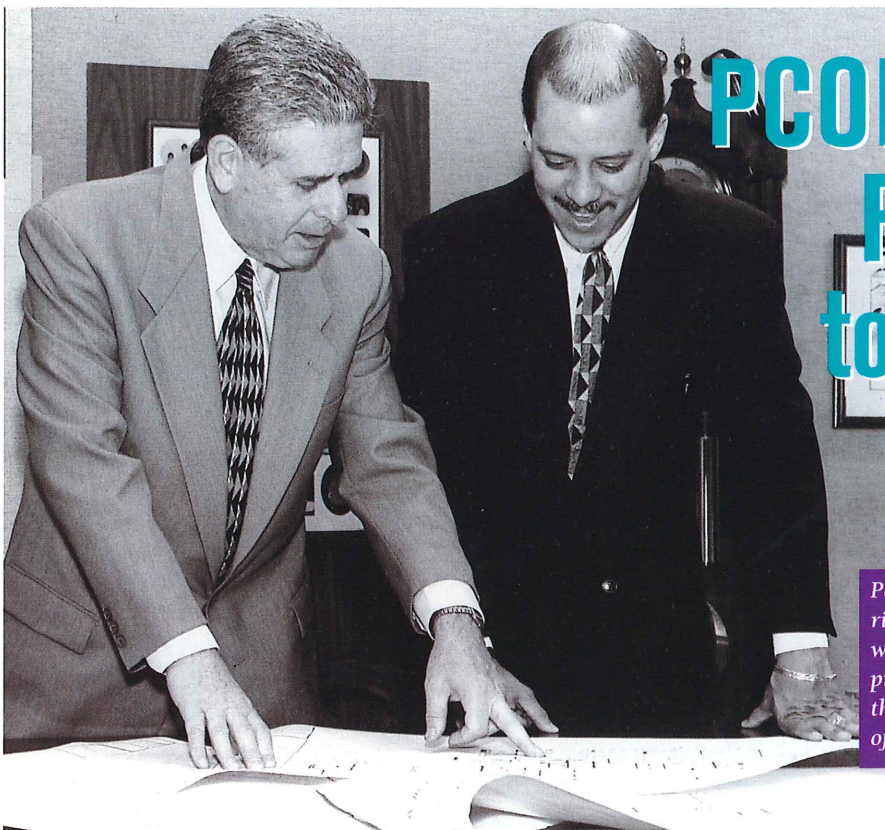
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## CAMPUSUpdate



# PCOM President Reaches Out to Legislators

Pennsylvania State Senator Vincent Hughes, right, reviews plans for PCOM's expansion with Leonard H. Finkelstein, DO, '59, PCOM president and CEO. Hughes was on campus for the June 2 groundbreaking ceremony to kick-off the campus improvement project.

Garnering legislative support for PCOM and osteopathic medical education has been a priority for College President and CEO Leonard H. Finkelstein, DO, '59.

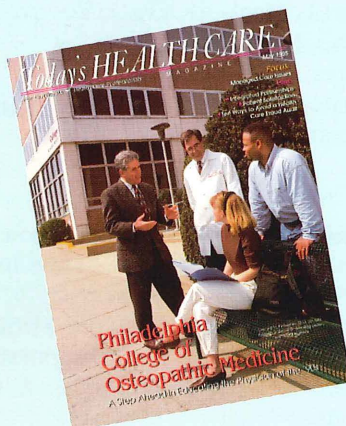
State Representative James R. Roebuck and his legislative assistant visited PCOM July 10 to meet with Finkelstein and tour the campus. They explored the possibility of the College becoming more involved with high schools in West Philadelphia, particularly West Philadelphia High School.

Pennsylvania legislators Senator Vincent Hughes and Representative Kathy Manderino joined PCOM's president in hosting a luncheon for Pennsylvania General Assembly

members. The event, which took place June 7 at the state capitol in Harrisburg, was held to thank the Assembly for supporting osteopathic medical education.

Hughes and Manderino also participated in the June 2 groundbreaking ceremony to celebrate PCOM's campus-wide renovation project.

On May 31, Finkelstein visited with U.S. Representative Jon Fox to discuss the College's role in managed care and federal funding for GME and student loans. They continued the discussion June 6 when Fox toured the campus. Finkelstein has also met with U.S. Senator Rick Santorum of Pennsylvania to discuss GME and student loan funding.



Today's **HEALTH CARE** magazine featured PCOM as the cover story in its May 1995 issue. The piece focused on the College's leadership role in training primary care physicians and its osteopathic mission. The magazine is distributed free to 4,000 physicians and physician groups in the Delaware Valley. For a copy, call PCOM's communications department at 215-871-6300.





## JUST Published

**Bruno J. Bromke, PhD; Merewyn C. Furiga, BS, GN; Russell C. Hendershot, DO, '95; and Michelle McGinn, DO, '95:** "An improved method for in vitro susceptibility testing of *Trichomonas vaginalis*," *Antimicrobial resistance: a crisis in health care*, J.E. Mortensen (Ed.), New York: Plenum Publishing Corporation, 1995, pp. 1-6.

**Barry Korn, DO, '91:** "The Painful Heel," *Journal of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association*, Vol. 39, No. 1, March 1995, pp. 8-10.

**Robert J. Lloyd, DO, '91:** "Pulmon-

ary Dirofilaria," *Journal of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association*, Vol. 39, No. 1, March 1995, pp. 11-13.

**David A. Patriquin, DO, '56 and Myron C. Beal, DO:** "Interexaminer agreement on palpatory diagnosis and patient self-assessment of disability: a pilot study," *Journal of the American Osteopathic Association*, Vol. 95, No. 2, February 1995, pp. 97-106.

**Ronald F. Sing, DO, '86; Charles C. Branas, MEMS; and Robert F. Sing, DO:** "Bicarbonate therapy in the treatment of lactic acidosis: Medicine

or toxin?," *Journal of the American Osteopathic Association*, Vol. 95, No. 1, January 1995, pp. 52-57. **Ronald F. Sing, DO, '86; Thomas J. Steffe, MD; and Charles C. Branas, MEMS:** "Fatal venous air embolism after removal of a central venous catheter," *Journal of the American Osteopathic Association*, Vol. 95, No. 3, March 1995, pp. 204-205. **Ronald F. Sing, DO, '86; Patrick M. Reilly, MD; and C. William Schwab, MD:** "The single-layered, parachuted intussuspected pancreaticojejunostomy," *The American Surgeon*, Vol. 61, 1995, pp. 322-323.

## CLASSActs

1937

**Ross E. Chapin, DO, Tucson, Ariz.,** received the "Trustee's Medallion" from the Tucson Osteopathic Medical Foundation for his distinguished service to osteopathic medicine.

1944

**Morris J. Cherrey, Clifton Heights, Pa.,** was selected by POMA as a delegate to the American Osteopathic

Association.

**David Heilig, DO, Drexel Hill, Pa.,** PCOM emeritus professor of OMM, served on the American Osteopathic Board on Special Proficiency in Manipulative Medicine in Indianapolis, Ind., where he conducted written, oral and practical examinations.

1948

**Joseph M. Pelletiere Jr., DO, Atlantic**

Beach, NY, was elected to the 1995 New York State Osteopathic Medical Society's House of Delegates.

1952

**Hymen Kanoff, DO, Philadelphia, Pa.,** was re-elected POMA speaker of the house at POMA's clinical assembly April 26-29.

1955

**Earl Noble Wagner, DO, Huntingdon Valley, Pa.,** was selected by POMA as a delegate to the American Osteopathic Association.

1956

**J. Harris Joseph, DO, Bala Cynwyd, Pa.,** was appointed clinical associate professor at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia.

**Robert L. Meals, DO, Bala Cynwyd, Pa.,** PCOM professor of radiological sciences, was selected by POMA as a delegate to the American Osteopathic Association.

1958

**Wayne R. English Jr., DO, Burleson, Texas,** received the "Award of Meritorious Service" from the American Osteopathic Academy of Sports Medicine for his efforts to gain recognition of sports medicine as a board certified specialty.

## Survivors Club Celebration Held



Frieda Vickers, DO, '39, and husband Major James Vickers join this year's Survivors Club inductees at a dinner dance held June 16 at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Philadelphia. PCOM's Survivors Club includes those who have completed a PCOM internship or residency. This year, 75 new members were inducted. A gala event is planned for next year, when the club will celebrate its 50th anniversary June 28-30 at the Seaview Country Club in Absecon, NJ.



## CLASSActs

1959

**Michael F. Avallone Sr.**, DO, Elkins Park, Pa., was selected by POMA as a delegate to the American Osteopathic Association.

**Leonard H. Finkelstein**, DO, Haverstown, Pa., PCOM president and CEO, was featured in the "Leaders of Note" section of the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons publication, *A Proud History*.

1961

**Nicholas C. Pedano**, DO, Merion Station, Pa., PCOM professor and chairman of surgery, received POMA's "Distinguished Service Award" at POMA's April 26-29 clinical assembly.

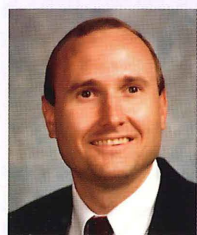


1962

**Merritt G. Davis Jr.**, DO, San Antonio, Texas, has been appointed clinical professor in the department of anesthesiology at the University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio. He also was elected vice president of district 17 of the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association. Last

### Alumnus Wins 21st Annual POMA Essay Contest

**Robert J. Lloyd**, DO, '91, Bensalem, Pa., won top honors - the "Golden Quill Award" - in the 1995 POMA Clinical Essay Contest. His article, titled



"Pulmonary Dirofilariosis" appeared in the March 1995 issue of the *Journal of the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association*. He is performing a general surgery residency at PCOM. A member of POMA and AOA, Lloyd holds two bachelor's degrees, one in business administration from Kutztown University and one in biology from Lebanon Valley College.

year, he was selected as a member of the Society of Medical Consultants to the Armed Forces.

**Arnold Sokol**, DO, Blue Bell, Pa., was selected by POMA as a delegate to the American Osteopathic Association.

1963

**Harvey M. Spector**, DO, Huntingdon Valley, Pa., was selected by POMA as a delegate to the American Osteopathic Association.

1964

**Michael Grossman**, DO, Cherry Hill, NJ, received a "Special Service Award" from New Jersey Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons.

1966

**Bernard F. Master**, DO, Worthington, Ohio, received the "Dr. George Wiley Award" from the Ohio Welfare Rights Organization.

**Merrill Jay Mirman**, DO, Springfield, Pa., received a "Personal Service Citation" from the Federal Aviation Administration for his valued service as an aviation medical examiner.

**H. Michael Zal**, DO, Narberth, Pa., was elected president of the medical staff at Belmont Center for Comprehensive Treatment, Philadelphia.

1967

**Kirk Hilliard Jr.**, DO, Columbus, Ohio, was named to the board of trustees at Doctors Hospital, Columbus.

**William Vilensky**, DO, Margate, NJ, received a "Special Service Award" from New Jersey Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons.

1968

**Ronald E. Ayres**, DO, Stratford, NJ, was named secretary/treasurer of the medical staff at Kennedy Memorial Hospitals - University Medical Center.

**Sheldon Kerner**, DO, Cherry Hill, NJ, was elected treasurer of the American Osteopathic College of Radiology.

**Leonard V. Limongelli**, DO, Bensalem, Pa., was elected chairman and trustee of POMA's district 14.

1970

**John W. Becher Jr.**, DO, Newtown Square, Pa., was selected by POMA as a delegate to the American Osteopathic Association.

1972

**Stephen L. Burnstein**, DO, Cherry Hill, NJ, was appointed chief of staff at Kennedy Memorial Hospitals - University Medical Center.

1974

**Larry Antolick**, DO, Sugarloaf, Pa., was certified in geriatric medicine.

**William K. Daiber**, DO, Harrisburg, Pa., was elected co-chairman of the Medicare PA Carrier Advisory Committee.

**Richard G. Paolino**, DO, Bensalem, Pa., was granted active membership in the American Osteopathic College of Occupational and Preventive Medicine and was appointed to POMA's Committee on Physical/Rehabilitation Medicine and Committee on Sports Medicine. He also was appointed consulting physician of occupational medical services for the American Belt Company.

1975

**Stanley E. Essl**, DO, Philadelphia, Pa., was selected by POMA as a delegate to the American Osteopathic Association.

**James S. Weisensee**, DO, Butler, Pa., was board certified in family practice.

1976

**Frank H. Guinn**, DO, Huntingdon Valley, Pa., was selected by POMA as a delegate to the American Osteopathic Association.

**William R. Henwood**, DO, Sharon, Pa., received the "Alumni Achievement Award" from Duquesne University School of Pharmacy.

**Victor Kaylarian**, DO, Johnston, Iowa, became a fellow of the American College of Physicians.



## CLASSActs

### PCOM President Receives "Pathfinder" Award for Community Service



Leonard H. Finkelstein, DO, '59, left, PCOM president and CEO, was one of three physicians who received the first annual "Pathfinder for a Healthy Community Award" from Misericordia Hospital in Philadelphia on July 18. The award is presented to those who have made it their mission to service and respond to the health needs of West and Southwest Philadelphia residents. Finkelstein received the award for his efforts in making PCOM a forerunner in community-centered health care. Presenting the award is David G. Starks, president and CEO of Mercy Health Plan.

**Robert P. Oristaglio Jr.**, DO, Coopersburg, Pa., was selected by POMA as a delegate to the American Osteopathic Association.

1977

**Mario D'Allessandro**, DO, Erie, Pa., was appointed chairman of the medical department at Titusville Area Hospital. He also became a fellow of the American College of Emergency Physicians and was named chairman of Emmco West, Inc., northwest Pennsylvania's regional emergency medical services agency.

**Sylvia Ferretti**, DO, Erie, Pa., was selected by POMA as a delegate to the American Osteopathic Association.

1978

**Carlo J. DiMarco**, DO, Media, Pa., was selected by POMA as a delegate to the American Osteopathic Association.

**Domenick N. Ronco**, DO, Mifflinburg, Pa., was selected by POMA as a delegate to the American Osteopathic Association.

1979

**Jeffrey C. Brand**, DO, Blue Bell, Pa., was selected by POMA as a delegate to the American Osteopathic Association.

**Joel S. Goldberg**, DO, Boothwyn, Pa., was appointed series editor for Sage

Publications. He will be responsible for developing and producing a series of eight medical textbooks over the next four years.

**Glenn G. Miller**, DO, Conshohocken, Pa., received the 1995 "Pennsylvania Family Physician of the Year Award" from the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Family Physicians Society.

**Carol L. St. George**, DO, was selected by POMA as a delegate to the American Osteopathic Association.

1980

**William A. Wewer**, DO, Lancaster, Pa., was selected by POMA as a delegate to the American Osteopathic Association.

1981

**Robert I. Barsky**, DO, Cherry Hill, NJ, was elected secretary/treasurer of the Urology Society and secretary of the Urology Society of the Academy of Medicine of New Jersey.

**John K. Mariani**, DO, Turnersville, NJ, was appointed vice chief of staff at Kennedy Memorial Hospitals - University Medical Center.

**George L. Weber**, DO, Huntingdon Valley, Pa., was selected by POMA as a delegate to the American Osteopathic Association.

1983

**Daniel Battafarano**, DO, San Antonio, Texas, was featured in an article in *The DO* titled "Military DO explains link between HIV, rheumatic syndromes."

**Brian L. Fellechner**, DO, Allentown, Pa., joined the Physicians Group at Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Hospital, Allentown. He will direct the pain management program.

1984

**Vincent R. Avallone Jr.**, DO, Lititz, Pa., opened an orthopedic surgery practice in Lancaster, Pa.

**Toni Maria Casale**, DO, Camp Hill, Pa., was re-elected POMA vice speaker of the house at POMA's clinical assembly April 26-29.

**Richard A. Ortoski**, DO, Erie, Pa., was named a "Great Lakes Scholar" by the Association of Occupational and Environmental Clinics. He will participate in a six-month program to heighten awareness among primary care health providers of the possible health effects caused by environmental hazards in the Great Lakes Basin.

1985

**Victor J. Sobolewski**, DO, White-water, Wis., was elected president of the Wisconsin Osteopathic Association of Physicians and Surgeons.

1986

**Louis J. Simonetti**, DO, Norristown, Pa., was board certified in family practice.



## Coming **EVENTS**

<b>Sept. 14-17, 1995</b> <i>New Orleans, La.</i>	<b>ACOS Annual Clinical Assembly</b> <b>New Orleans Marriott</b>
<b>Oct. 15-19, 1995</b> <i>Orlando, Fla.</i>	<b>AOA Annual Convention – 100th Anniversary</b> <b>The Peabody, Orlando</b>
<b>Jan. 26-27, 1996</b>	<b>Founders Day Weekend</b> <b>PCOM / Adam's Mark Hotel</b>
<b>Jan. 28 – Feb. 4, 1996</b>	<b>12th Annual St. Thomas CME – US Virgin Islands</b> <b>Sapphire Beach Resort and Marina</b>

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Escape from winter to the tropical paradise of St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands! Join us for the the 1996 Post-Founders Day Family CME Jan. 28 to Feb. 4. We will be staying at the beautiful Sapphire Beach Resort and Marina. Forty category 1 AOA credits (requested). The price is \$1,995 per person all inclusive, with departure from Philadelphia. Children 12 and under stay and eat for free. For more information, call Hale T. Peffall Jr., executive director of alumni relations and development, at (215) 871-6120. Celebrate your class reunion Saturday night, Jan. 27, at Founders Day!

### **Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine**

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# PCOM

## Digest

SUMMER • 1995

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#### **On the cover:**

Digest is now a color publication! Here's a tranquil scene taken just before construction began on the new parking garage.



PCOM Digest is printed on recycled paper.